

## Message Text

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66

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIE-00

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 RSR-01 /075 W

----- 036976

O R 232255Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5093

INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY BRQSILIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 3197

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OAJ HO CU

SUBJ: HONDURAN POSITION RE VENEZUELA INITIATIVE ON CUBA

REF: STATE 167208

SUMMARY: EMBASSY CITES PROPOSED AIDE MEMOIRE FOR GOH  
FONMIN IN EVENT DEPT. HAS FURTHER GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. BEST INFORMATION WE HAVE ON FONMIN BATRES' TRAVEL  
PLANS INDICATE HE WILL RETURN THIS WEEKEND. EMBASSY WOULD  
HOPE TO DELIVER AIDE MEMOIRE NO LATER THAN MONDAY AUGUST  
27 OR AUGUST 28.

2. INITIAL PRESENTATION WE HAVE PREPARED IS A LONG  
FOLLOWING LINES DRAWN FROM TELEGRAPHIC GUIDANCE  
PREVIOUSLY SUPPLIED. QUOTE: THE GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA  
HAS RECENTLY MADE KNOWN TO DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES OF  
OAS NATIONS RESIDENT IN CARACAS ITS DESIRE TO REFER TO  
SOME APPROPRIATE FORUM OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN  
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STATES (OAS) A RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD, IN EFFECT, LEAVE

EACH MEMBER STATE FREE TO MAKE ITS OWN DETERMINATION WITH RESPECT TO RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA. IT IS APPARENTLY THE IDEA OF VENEZUELA THAT SUCH RESOLUTION COULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL OF THE OAS OR OTHER BODY IN WHICH ONLY A MAJORITY VOTE WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR PASSAGE OF THE PROPOSAL. A COPY OF THE RESOLUTION IS ENCLOSED WITH THIS AIDE MEMOIRE. FROM A POLITICAL STANDPOINT, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT THE DANGER TO THE HEMISPHERE FROM THE INTENTIONS AND ACTIONS OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF CUBA HAVE NOT CHANGED TO SUCH A DEGREE AS TO WARRANT A CHANGE IN OAS POLICY WITH RESPECT TO RELATIONS WITH THAT COUNTRY. IN ADDITION, AND VERY IMPORTANTLY, THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT SERIOUS JURIDICAL QUESTIONS ARE RAISED BY THE VENEZUELAN INITIATIVE.

THE ORIGINAL OAS RESOLUTION OF THE NINTH MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS IN 1964, WHICH CALLED FOR STATES SIGNATORY TO RIO TREATY TO SEVER RELATIONS AND TIES WITH CUBA IN THE LIGHT OF THE LATTER'S AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS

AGAINST HEMISPHERE SECURITY WAS PASSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 6 AND 8 OF THE INTERAMERICAN TREATY OF RECIPROCAL ASSISTANCE (RIO TREATY) BY MORE THAN THE TWO THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED FOR ACTIONS UNDER THAT AGREEMENT. IT IS CLEAR THAT ANY ANNULMENT OR MODIFICATION OF A DETERMINATION TAKEN BY TWO THIRDS OF THE SIGNATORY STATES CAN ONLY BE MADE BY A SIMILAR TWO THIRDS VOTE OF THE SIGNATORY STATES. ATTEMPTS TO AMEND "RIO TREATY" ACTIONS BY OTHER MEANS CAN ONLY HAVE THE EFFECT OF UNDERMINING THIS BASIC AND HISTORIC PILLAR OF INTER-AMERICAN SECURITY WITH SERIOUS AND UNFORESEEABLE EFFECTS FOR THE FUTURE.  
END QUOTE.

3. ANY FURTHER SUGGESTIONS DEPT. MAY HAVE TO INTENSIFY JURIDICAL FOCUS WOULD BE APPRECIATED ASAP. IF NO REPLY IS RECEIVED EMBASSY WILL PROCEED AS ABOVE.

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